

Atlantic Innovation Fund Program Features

The Atlantic Innovation Fund will focus on:

- Projects in the areas of natural and applied sciences, as well as social sciences and humanities where these are explicitly linked to the development of technology-based products, processes or services.
- R&D activity that is linked to economic development and commercialization of technologies, particularly in areas that support the growth of strategic sectors and clusters.
- Projects that demonstrate pan-Atlantic collaboration and reach beyond a single locale or province.

Who can apply to the Atlantic Innovation Fund?

Eligible applicants include universities, colleges, research institutions and private enterprises and organizations. Proposals that involve partnerships among these groups are encouraged.

Project Proposal Process

The Atlantic Innovation Fund is guided by an Advisory Board that makes recommendations on specific project proposals. ACOA provides administrative support to the Advisory Board.

Project proposals will be solicited through a formal Request for Project Proposals (RPPP) process. A package is available to assist prospective proponents in developing a proposal for submission to ACOA.

To obtain this package, contact:

Atlantic Innovation Fund
Secretariat
ACOA Head Office
Blue Cross Centre
644 Main Street
P.O. Box 6051
Moncton, NB
E1C 9J8
Toll free: 1-800-561-7862
Telephone: (506) 851-2271
Fax: (506) 851-7403

ACOA New Brunswick
570 Queen St., 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 578
Fredericton, NB
E3B 5A6
Toll free: 1-800-561-4030
Telephone: (506) 452-3184
Fax: (506) 452-3285

ACOA Newfoundland and Labrador
John Cabot Building, 11th Floor
10 Brierley's Hill
P.O. Box 1060, Station C
St. John's, NF
A1C 5M5
Toll free: 1-800-668-1010
Telephone: (709) 772-2751
Fax: (709) 772-2712

The package is also available on ACOA's web site at:
www.acoa-apeca.gc.ca

ACOA Nova Scotia
1801 Hollis St., Suite 600
P.O. Box 2284, Station M
Halifax, NS
B3J 3C8
Toll free: 1-800-565-1228
Telephone: (902) 426-6743
Fax: (902) 426-2054

ACOA Prince Edward Island and Tourism
Royal Bank Building
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C1A 7K2
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Fax: (902) 566-7098

Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation
4th Floor, Commerce Tower
15 Dorchester St.
P.O. Box 1750
Sydney, NS
B1P 6T7
Toll free: 1-800-705-3926
Telephone: (902) 564-3600
Fax: (902) 564-3825



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A Commitment to Sustainable Development

At ACOA we believe that a healthy environment is essential to the development of a strong, growing and sustainable economy. We are committed to protecting the environment of this region by setting an example in the environmental management of ACOA's own operations, by promoting sustainable businesses in the Atlantic region, and by advancing the environmental industry sector in Atlantic Canada.

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promotion économique
du Canada atlantique

Canada

INNOVATION – THE KEY TO ECONOMIC GROWTH

The Government of Canada recognizes that the knowledge-based economy of the 21st century can only take hold in those countries and regions that:

- innovate
- improve productivity
- develop and implement the latest technology
- invest in skills for their citizens, and
- seek out new opportunities around the world.

That is why, in the summer of 2000, the Prime Minister announced the Atlantic Investment Partnership, a \$700-million, five-year Government of Canada initiative designed to help Atlantic Canadians innovate and compete in an increasingly global, knowledge-based economy.

The Atlantic Investment Partnership is a balanced mix of investments in the areas of innovation, trade and investment, entrepreneurship and business skills development, and rural and community economic development. It is part of the Government of Canada's overall long-term economic development strategy for the region – a strategy that builds on past economic success with new resources and a stronger focus on innovation.

The Atlantic Investment Partnership is administered by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), the federal department that works with Atlantic Canadians to improve the region's economy through the development of businesses and job opportunities.

What is the Atlantic Innovation Fund?

The Atlantic Innovation Fund is a \$300-million initiative through which the Government of Canada is making strategic investments aimed at increasing Atlantic Canada's innovation capacity. The Fund is a key component of the Atlantic Investment Partnership.

It will help foster excellence in innovation, create new business opportunities, stimulate export-based growth, and provide many Atlantic Canadians with enhanced skills and good quality jobs.

Why is the Atlantic Innovation Fund important to Atlantic Canada?

Innovation and technology are powerful engines of economic growth. Atlantic Canada's capacity to innovate will determine its ability to compete and prosper in the future.

With its many universities and research institutes, expanding entrepreneurial culture, increasingly export-oriented economy and growing knowledge-based sectors, Atlantic Canada has most of the ingredients required to take advantage of the opportunities that the 21st century has to offer.

However, there is a need for the region to increase productivity and innovation, as well as investment in research and development and technology adoption. There is also a need to enhance Atlantic Canada's innovation infrastructure by forging stronger linkages between the region's research community and the private sector.

The Atlantic Innovation Fund will help accelerate the growth of knowledge-based industries, thereby making the Atlantic economy stronger, more diversified and more competitive.

What are the innovation opportunities?

Atlantic Canada has demonstrated specific capabilities in a number of emerging sectors that possess good global growth prospects. These include: aquaculture, environmental technologies, information technologies (e.g. communications, geomatics), health and medical technologies, ocean technologies, and biotechnology.

In addition to these growth sectors, the Fund will encourage the development of technologies that allow resource sectors, such as oil and gas, agriculture and agri-food, fisheries, forestry and mining, to increase their competitiveness.

Specifically, the Atlantic Innovation Fund will:

- increase research and development (R&D) being carried out in Atlantic research facilities leading to the launch of new ideas, products, processes and services;
- improve the region's capacity to commercialize R&D;
- strengthen the region's innovation system by supporting R&D and commercialization partnerships and alliances among private enterprises, universities, research institutions and other organizations; and
- enhance the region's ability to access national R&D programs.

